

REMARKS

Claims 1-99 are currently pending in this application and have been rejected to by the Examiner.

Report of Telephonic Interviews

On or about August 2, 2006, Examiner Stork left a message and we returned his call. He indicated that claim 1 and the other independent claims would be allowable if they included the limitations of either claim 4 or 6. He identified two additional references not cited in previous office actions, over which claims 4 and 6 are allowable. The references are Byrd, Jr. et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,832,480 and Zamora, U.S. Pat. No. 4,965,763.

On August 28 and 29, we spoke further with Examiner Stork and agreed to submit a form of Examiner's amendment by e-mail, for his incorporation in a notice of allowance. We indicated interest in having claims that included only the limitations of claim 4 or 6. He suggested incorporating the limitations of claim 1 into claim 6 and the limitations of claim 4 into claim 1, for instance.

Description of Examiner's Amendments

We followed the Examiner's suggestions.

For independent claims 1, 40, 61 and 81, we incorporated the limitations of claim 4 into the independent claim. For claims 6, 46, 66 and 86, we incorporated the limitations of the independent claim into claim 6 and its counterparts.

For independent claim 21, we incorporated the limitations of claim 6 into the independent claim. For claim 23, we incorporated the limitations of the independent claim into this counterpart to claim 4.

Redundant claims were cancelled as indicated. Some dependencies were adjusted.

The Examiner allowed the claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants appreciate entry of the authorized amendments and allowance of the claims.

The undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at (650) 712-0340 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST, Monday through Friday, and can be reached at his cell at phone (415) 902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6 November 2006

/Ernest J. Beffel, Jr./

Ernest J. Beffel, Jr.
Registration No. 43,489

HAYNES BEFFEL & WOLFELD LLP
P.O. Box 366
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
Telephone: (650) 712-0340
Facsimile: (650) 712-0263